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February 1, 2011

To: Members of the Legislature's Labor and Public Employees Committee

Subject: Reject HB-5460 - An Act Concerning Captive Audience Meetings

I am writing you today to ask that you reconsider the intent of HB-5460 and reject this proposed legislation. This bill is harmful to Connecticut businesses and certainly harmful to our company. We have been in business in Waterbury for 73 years now. During this difficult, challenging economy, restricting open communication at the company would be detrimental to company morale at a time when we can least afford to have this occur.

This bill restricts us from talking with your employees, at mandatory staff meetings, about a wide range of subjects that we routinely discuss with our employees including:

- Employee benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment
- News from the State Capitol, politics, local issues, etc.
- Community activities or events
- Charitable campaigns (e.g., company blood drives, charitable fundraising, etc)

Our employees rely on this open communication as part of their informational knowledge for their education and well being.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Jack E. Traver Jr.

Jack E. Traver Jr.
President

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